



GET YOUR CHILD READY FOR KINDERGARTEN WITH PRE-K!

HOW DO EARLY LEARNING EXPERIENCES SUPPORT SCHOOL READINESS? NEARLY 90% OF A CHILD'S BRAIN GROWTH HAPPENS BY AGE FIVE. RESEARCH CONFIRMS THAT THE WAY WE INTERACT WITH CHILDREN AND THE EXPERIENCES WE PROVIDE HAVE A BIG IMPACT ON A CHILD'S EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT, LEARNING ABILITIES, AND, ULTIMATELY, SUCCESS IN SCHOOL.

WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP CHILDREN BE READY FOR SCHOOL? EVERYTHING WE DO WITH CHILDREN HELPS THEM TO LEARN NEW SKILLS. EVERYDAY MOMENTS ARE LEARNING MOMENTS!

WHY DOES SCHOOL READINESS MATTER? CHILDREN WHO ENTER KINDERGARTEN WITH HIGH LEVELS OF READINESS ARE MORE LIKELY TO SUCCEED ACADEMICALLY THROUGHOUT THEIR SCHOOL CAREERS.

THE PRE-K PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE 6:45-5:00 AND INCLUDES BREAKFAST, LUNCH, AND SNACK.

A PART DAY PRE-K PROGRAM IS AVAILABLE 8:00-12:00 AND INCLUDES BREAKFAST AND LUNCH.

FEES ARE BASED ON A SLIDING SCALE.

CALL THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER AT 765-7566 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

TOP 10 SCHOOL READINESS SKILLS

1. Writing – We help your child practice writing letters, especially the letters in his/her name, and write in shaving cream or in finger paint to make practicing more fun and multisensory.

2. Letter Recognition – We play games to help your child recognize letters of the alphabet, and rather than drilling your child with flashcards, use them to play a game of alphabet go fish.

3. Beginning Sounds – We make your child aware of the sound that each letter makes and overemphasize the first sound in words to help your child hear the individual sounds in words.

4. Number Recognition and Counting – We count throughout the day, point out numbers we see in the

environment and have your child name them, such as the numbers found on food boxes or street signs.

5. Shapes and Colors - We might add food coloring to cookie dough, milk or vanilla pudding to emphasize colors, help your child recognize more difficult shapes by showing him/her how to draw them on paper and cut them out, and play games in which your child finds objects of particular colors and shapes around the school.

6. Fine Motor Skills – We give your child colored pencils, crayons or markers to help keep him/her interested in writing and drawing. Playing with play dough is a fun way to strengthen the muscles of the hand that will be used for writing.

7. Cutting – We have good child-safe scissors and let your child practice, giving him/her old magazines or newspapers to cut up, or allow him/her to make a collage of the things he/she likes by cutting them

from magazines and gluing them to a piece of paper.

8. Reading Readiness – We run a finger under the words as we read to your child to help him/her learn that words go from left to right and top to bottom, and we play games with rhyming words to help your child hear similar sounds in words.

9. Attention and Following Directions – We read lots of stories with your child and work up to reading longer chapter books, one chapter each day, and play Simon Says with two or three step directions ("Simon Says jump up and down and shout hooray").

10. Social Skills – We give your child opportunities to interact with other children, teach your child how to express his/her feelings, role-play different situations he/she might experience and help him/her find solutions for typical problems he/she might encounter.